5 WAYS TO GET A GREEN LAWN WITHOUT POLLUTING MINNESOTA’S WATER

Step 1: KNOW YOUR SOIL

Take a soil test.

Apply the right amount of fertilizer. More is NOT better, it’s just more expensive.

Minnesota law requires ZERO-phosphorous fertilizer unless a soil test shows you need it or you’re establishing a new lawn.

Step 2: ONLY WEED WHEN YOU NEED

The best defense against weeds is … healthy grass!

Use herbicides as directed and only when you need them.

Step 3: HOLES CAN HELP

Compacted soil: Aerate once a year around Labor Day.

Non-compacted soil: Aerate every few years, as needed.

Step 4: MAKE A MOWING GAMEPLAN

Mow often and mow high.

Taller grass has longer roots that better block weeds and are more resistant to drought.

During dry spells, take a break and let your mower rest.

Leave grass clippings on the lawn - they become free fertilizer!

Sweep up clippings on pavement and sidewalks.

Step 5: WATCH YOUR WATERING

Did you know? There are 32 million acres of irrigated lawn in the U.S.

That’s more irrigated lawn than irrigated corn in the U.S.!

Your lawn needs only 1-inch of water per week.

If it rains, you might not need to water at all.

Use a tuna can to calibrate your system.

After watering for 15 minutes, measure amount in the can.

Don’t water during the hottest part of the day.

If you ENJOY clean water, do your part to PROTECT Minnesota’s water!

Get inspired!